

**November:
WEEK ONE**



INTERNET SAFETY

THE AGENDA:

- ◇ *Discussion: What are good and bad things about the Internet? How has it changed our lives? How do you use the Internet? Do you ever use chat rooms or social networking sites? Why are some parents so paranoid about kids being online? What are some scary/dangerous situations that come up online? Have any of these happened to you or your friends? What did you do? What advice would you give to a younger brother or sister who is using the Internet on their own?*
- ◇ 'How Safe a Surfer Are You?' Worksheet
- ◇ Discuss how to make your Mentee's networking profile (eg. Facebook) more secure.



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- ◇ Use the library computer to research magic and card tricks, then practice!
 - ◇ Read books or internet articles about Harry Houdini—the Greatest Escape Artist of all time!



How Safe a Surfer Are You?

By Brittany, a TeenAngel (www.teenangels.org)

Give yourself this little test. If you answer yes to any of these 11 questions, you are NOT as safe as you can and should be online.

- 1) Do you post your phone/cell phone number on your away messages?
- 2) Do you have your schools name or your email address/telephone number at school in your profile?
- 3) Has you or your school ever posted pictures of you and your friends on a website along with your names?
- 4) Does anyone, besides your parents, know your password, even your best friend?
- 5) Is your password something obvious, like your pets name, favorite sports team, boyfriend/girlfriends name, date of birth?
- 6) Have you ever given a complete stranger your real name, school, hometown, sports team, and/or position? Strangers who try to lure kids/teens, piece these little bits of information together to find you.
- 7) Do you illegally download music, motion pictures, sitcoms, or software?
- 8) Do you keep a blog and include personal information like your friends names, hometown, school, etc?
- 9) Do you purchase things online without telling your parents first or from a not well-known vendor?
- 10) Have you ever replied to an email address that sent you porn/violent spam, or claimed to give you something for signing up? (Replying to these emails allows that particular service to know that you are an active email address; they will use your name to make money and probably make you receive even more unwanted spam.)
- 11) Have you ever met a stranger offline that you met online?

If you answer no to all of these questions, you ARE on the right track to being a safe and responsible surfer. You should encourage all of your friends and family to do the same!